

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to study the incidence of fatal and non-fatal assaults in TNC and for-hire vehicles in order to enhance safety and save lives."

SA 6626. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. SULLIVAN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4321, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO THE MARINE DEBRIS FOUNDATION.

(a) **STATUS OF FOUNDATION.**—Section 111(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (33 U.S.C. 4211(a)) is amended, in the second sentence, by striking "organization" and inserting "corporation".

(b) **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT, VACANCIES, AND REMOVAL.**—Section 112(b) of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4212(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking "and considering" and inserting "considering";

(ii) by inserting "and with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce," after "by the Board,"; and

(iii) by inserting "and such other criteria as the Under Secretary may establish" after "subsection (a)";

(B) in paragraph (3)(A), by inserting "with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce" after "the Board";

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by inserting "the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development," after "Service,"; and

(ii) by inserting "and with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce" after "EPA Administrator";

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as paragraphs (3) through (6), respectively; and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(2) **RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARD REGARDING APPOINTMENTS.**—For appointments made under paragraph (1) other than the initial appointments, the Board shall submit to the Under Secretary recommendations on candidates for appointment."

(2) **GENERAL POWERS.**—Section 112(g) of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4212(g)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "officers and employees" and inserting "the initial officers and employees of the Board"; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B)(i), by striking "chief operating officer" and inserting "chief executive officer".

(3) **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**—Section 112 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4212) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**—

"(1) **APPOINTMENT; REMOVAL; REVIEW.**—The Board shall appoint and may remove and review the performance of the chief executive officer of the Board.

"(2) **POWERS.**—The chief executive officer of the Board may appoint, remove, and review the performance of any officer or employee of the Foundation."

(c) **POWERS OF FOUNDATION.**—Section 113(c)(1) of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4213(c)(1)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(1) by inserting "nonprofit" before "corporation"; and

(2) by striking "acting as a trustee" and inserting "formed".

(d) **PRINCIPAL OFFICE.**—Section 113 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4213) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) **PRINCIPAL OFFICE.**—The Board may locate the principal office of the Foundation outside the District of Columbia and is encouraged to locate that office in a coastal State."

(e) **BEST PRACTICES.**—Section 113 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4213), as amended by subsection (d), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) **BEST PRACTICES.**—

"(1) **TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.**—In this paragraph, the term 'Tribal government' means the recognized governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation individually identified (including parenthetically) in the list published most recently as of the date of enactment of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act pursuant to section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

"(2) **BEST PRACTICES.**—The Foundation shall develop and implement best practices for conducting outreach to Tribal governments and Indian Tribes.

"(3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The best practices developed under paragraph (2) shall—

"(A) include a process to support technical assistance and capacity building to improve outcomes; and

"(B) promote an awareness of programs and grants available under this Act."

(f) **USE OF FUNDS.**—Section 118 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 4218) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking "and State and local government agencies" and inserting ", State and local government agencies, United States and international nongovernmental organizations, regional organizations, and foreign government entities"; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking "PROHIBITION" and inserting "LIMITATION"; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

"(B) **SALARIES.**—The Foundation may use Federal funds described in subparagraph (A) to pay for salaries only during the 24-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act. The Secretary shall not require reimbursement from the Foundation for any such Federal funds used to pay for such salaries."; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking "and State and local government agencies" and inserting ", State and local government agencies, United States and international nongovernmental organizations, regional organizations, and foreign government entities".

SEC. 3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE MARINE DEBRIS PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.

(a) **GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS.**—Section 3(d) of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1952(d)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking "AND CONTRACTS" and inserting "CONTRACTS, AND OTHER AGREEMENTS";

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking "and contracts" and inserting ", contracts, and other agreements";

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking "part of the" and inserting "part of a"; and

(ii) by inserting "or (C)" after "subparagraph (A)"; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting "and except as provided in subparagraph (B)" after "subparagraph (A)"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(7) **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.**—With respect to any project carried out pursuant to a contract or other agreement entered into under paragraph (1) that is not a cooperative agreement or an agreement to provide financial assistance in the form of a grant, the Administrator may contribute on an in-kind basis the portion of the costs of the project that the Administrator determines represents the amount of benefit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration derives from the project."

(b) **RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS; USE OF RESOURCES.**—Section 3 of the Marine Debris Act (33 U.S.C. 1952) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) **RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.**—In order to accomplish the purpose set forth in section 2, the Administrator, acting through the Program, may, only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts, receive and expend funds made available by—

"(1) any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States;

"(2) any State, local, or tribal government (or any political subdivision thereof);

"(3) any foreign government or international organization;

"(4) any public or private organization; or

"(5) any individual.

"(f) **USE OF RESOURCES.**—In order to accomplish the purpose set forth in section 2, the Administrator, acting through the Program, may use, with consent, with reimbursement, and subject to the availability of appropriations, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of—

"(1) any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States;

"(2) any State, local, or tribal government (or any political subdivision thereof);

"(3) any foreign government or international organization;

"(4) any public or private organization; or

"(5) any individual."

SA 6627. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. RISCH)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3428, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fission for the Future Act".

SEC. 2. U.S. NUCLEAR FUELS SECURITY INITIATIVE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Department should—

(A) prioritize activities to increase domestic production of low-enriched uranium; and

(B) accelerate efforts to establish a domestic high-assay, low-enriched uranium enrichment capability; and

(2) if domestic enrichment of high-assay, low-enriched uranium will not be commercially available at the scale needed in time to meet the needs of the advanced nuclear reactor demonstration projects of the Department, the Secretary shall consider and implement, as necessary—

(A) all viable options to make high-assay, low-enriched uranium produced from inventories owned by the Department available in a manner that is sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers, without impacting existing Department missions, until such time that commercial enrichment and deconversion capability for high-assay, low-enriched uranium exists at a scale sufficient to meet future needs; and

(B) all viable options for partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules until that time.

(b) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of this section are—

(1) to expeditiously increase domestic production of low-enriched uranium;

(2) to expeditiously increase domestic production of high-assay, low-enriched uranium by an annual quantity, and in such form, determined by the Secretary to be sufficient to meet the needs of—

(A) advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(B) the consortium;

(3) to ensure the availability of domestically produced, converted, and enriched uranium in a quantity determined by the Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies, to be sufficient to address a reasonably anticipated supply disruption;

(4) to address gaps and deficiencies in the domestic production, conversion, enrichment, deconversion, and reduction of uranium by partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States if domestic options are not practicable;

(5) to ensure that, in the event of a supply disruption in the nuclear fuel market, a reserve of nuclear fuels is available to serve as a backup supply to support the nuclear non-proliferation and civil nuclear energy objectives of the Department;

(6) to support enrichment, deconversion, and reduction technology deployed in the United States; and

(7) to ensure that, until such time that domestic enrichment and deconversion of high-assay, low-enriched uranium is commercially available at the scale needed to meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers, the Secretary considers and implements, as necessary—

(A) all viable options to make high-assay, low-enriched uranium produced from inventories owned by the Department available in a manner that is sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(B) all viable options for partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.—The term “advanced nuclear reactor” has the meaning given the term in section 951(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16271(b)).

(2) ASSOCIATED ENTITY.—The term “associated entity” means an entity that—

(A) is owned, controlled, or dominated by—

(i) the government of a country that is an ally or partner of the United States; or

(ii) an associated individual; or

(B) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States, including a corporation that is incorporated in such a country.

(3) ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “associated individual” means an alien who is a national of a country that is an ally or partner of the United States.

(4) CONSORTIUM.—The term “consortium” means the consortium established under section 2001(a)(2)(F) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)).

(5) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Energy.

(6) HIGH-ASSAY, LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM; HALEU.—The term “high-assay, low-enriched uranium” or “HALEU” means high-assay low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 2001(d) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(d))).

(7) LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM; LEU.—The term “low-enriched uranium” or “LEU” means each of—

(A) low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 3102 of the USEC Privatization Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h)); and

(B) low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 3112A(a) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h-10a(d))).

(8) PROGRAMS.—The term “Programs” means—

(A) the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (d)(1);

(B) the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department; and

(C) the HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program established under subsection (d)(3).

(9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(10) U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY.—The term “U.S. nuclear energy company” means a company that—

(A) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, the United States; and

(B) is involved in the nuclear energy industry.

(d) ESTABLISHMENT AND EXPANSION OF PROGRAMS.—The Secretary, consistent with the objectives described in subsection (b), shall—

(1) establish a program, to be known as the “Nuclear Fuel Security Program”, to increase the quantity of LEU and HALEU produced by U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(2) expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department to ensure the availability of domestically produced, converted, and enriched uranium in the event of a supply disruption; and

(3) establish a program, to be known as the “HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program”—

(A) to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers until such time that commercial enrichment and deconversion capability for HALEU exists in the United States at a scale sufficient to meet future needs; and

(B) where practicable, to partner with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules until that time.

(e) NUCLEAR FUEL SECURITY PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Nuclear Fuel Security Program, the Secretary—

(A) shall—

(i) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, enter into 2 or more contracts to begin acquiring not less than 100 metric tons per year of LEU by December 31, 2026 (or the earliest operationally feasible date thereafter), to ensure diverse domestic uranium mining, conversion, enrichment, and deconversion capacity and technologies, including new capacity, among U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(ii) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, enter into 2 or more contracts with members of the consortium to begin acquiring not less than 20 metric tons per year of HALEU by December 31, 2027 (or the earliest operationally feasible date

thereafter), from U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(iii) utilize only uranium produced, converted, enriched, deconverted, and reduced in—

(I) the United States; or

(II) if domestic options are not practicable, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States; and

(iv) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the use of domestic uranium utilized as a result of that program does not negatively affect the economic operation of nuclear reactors in the United States; and

(B)(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless—

(I) funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(II) the commitment is funded entirely by funds made available to the Secretary from the account described in subsection (i)(2)(B); and

(ii) may make a commitment described in clause (i) only—

(I) if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from the commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made; and

(II) to the extent of that up-front obligation recorded in full at that time.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1)(A)(ii), the Secretary shall consider and, if appropriate, implement—

(A) options to ensure the quickest availability of commercially enriched HALEU, including—

(i) partnerships between 2 or more commercial enrichers; and

(ii) utilization of up to 10-percent enriched uranium as feedstock in demonstration-scale or commercial HALEU enrichment facilities;

(B) options to partner with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to provide LEU and HALEU for commercial purposes;

(C) options that provide for an array of HALEU—

(i) enrichment levels;

(ii) output levels to meet demand; and

(iii) fuel forms, including uranium metal and oxide; and

(D) options—

(i) to replenish, as necessary, Department stockpiles of uranium that was intended to be downblended for other purposes, but was instead used in carrying out activities under the HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program;

(ii) to continue supplying HALEU to meet the needs of the recipients of an award made pursuant to the funding opportunity announcement of the Department numbered DE-FOA-0002271 for Pathway 1, Advanced Reactor Demonstrations; and

(iii) to make HALEU available to other advanced nuclear reactor developers and other end-users.

(3) AVOIDANCE OF MARKET DISRUPTIONS.—In carrying out the Nuclear Fuel Security Program, the Secretary, to the extent practicable and consistent with the purposes of that program, shall not disrupt or replace market mechanisms by competing with U.S. nuclear energy companies.

(f) EXPANSION OF THE AMERICAN ASSURED FUEL SUPPLY PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies, shall—

(1) expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department by merging

the operations of the Uranium Reserve Program of the Department with the American Assured Fuel Supply Program; and

(2) in carrying out the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department, as expanded under paragraph (1)—

(A) maintain, replenish, diversify, or increase the quantity of uranium made available by that program in a manner determined by the Secretary to be consistent with the purposes of that program and the objectives described in subsection (b);

(B) utilize only uranium produced, converted, and enriched in—

(i) the United States; or

(ii) if domestic options are not practicable, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States;

(C) make uranium available from the American Assured Fuel Supply, subject to terms and conditions determined by the Secretary to be reasonable and appropriate;

(D) refill and expand the supply of uranium in the American Assured Fuel Supply, including by maintaining a limited reserve of uranium to address a potential event in which a domestic or foreign recipient of uranium experiences a supply disruption for which uranium cannot be obtained through normal market mechanisms or under normal market conditions; and

(E) take other actions that the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to address the purposes of that program and the objectives described in subsection (b).

(g) HALEU FOR ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS PROGRAM.—

(1) ACTIVITIES.—On enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall immediately accelerate and, as necessary, initiate activities to make available from inventories or stockpiles owned by the Department and made available to the consortium, HALEU for use in advanced nuclear reactors that cannot operate on uranium with lower enrichment levels or on alternate fuels, with priority given to the awards made pursuant to the funding opportunity announcement of the Department numbered DE-FOA-0002271 for Pathway 1, Advanced Reactor Demonstrations, with additional HALEU to be made available to other advanced nuclear reactor developers, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(2) QUANTITY.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider and implement, as necessary, all viable options to make HALEU available in quantities sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers, including by seeking to make available—

(A) by September 30, 2024, not less than 3 metric tons of HALEU;

(B) by December 31, 2025, not less than an additional 8 metric tons of HALEU; and

(C) by June 30, 2026, not less than an additional 10 metric tons of HALEU.

(3) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary shall take into consideration—

(A) options for providing HALEU from a stockpile of uranium owned by the Department, including—

(i) uranium that has been declared excess to national security needs during or prior to fiscal year 2022;

(ii) uranium that—

(I) directly meets the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers; but

(II) has been previously used or fabricated for another purpose;

(iii) uranium that can meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers after removing radioactive or other contaminants that resulted from previous use or fabrication of the fuel for research, development,

demonstration, or deployment activities of the Department, including activities that reduce the environmental liability of the Department by accelerating the processing of uranium from stockpiles designated as waste;

(iv) uranium from a high-enriched uranium stockpile, which can be blended with lower assay uranium to become HALEU to meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(v) uranium from stockpiles intended for other purposes (excluding stockpiles intended for national security needs), but for which uranium could be swapped or replaced in time in such a manner that would not negatively impact the missions of the Department;

(B) options for expanding, or establishing new, capabilities or infrastructure to support the processing of uranium from Department inventories;

(C) options for accelerating the availability of HALEU from HALEU enrichment demonstration projects of the Department;

(D) options for providing HALEU from domestically enriched HALEU procured by the Department through a competitive process pursuant to the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (d)(1);

(E) options to replenish, as needed, Department stockpiles of uranium made available pursuant to subparagraph (A) with domestically enriched HALEU procured by the Department through a competitive process pursuant to the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (d)(1); and

(F) options that combine 1 or more of the approaches described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) to meet the deadlines described in paragraph (2).

(4) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) CERTAIN SERVICES.—The Secretary shall not barter or otherwise sell or transfer uranium in any form in exchange for services relating to—

(i) the final disposition of radioactive waste from uranium that is the subject of a contract for sale, resale, transfer, or lease under this subsection; or

(ii) environmental cleanup activities.

(B) CERTAIN COMMITMENTS.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary—

(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless—

(I) funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(II) the commitment is funded entirely by funds made available to the Secretary from the account described in subsection (i)(2)(B); and

(ii) may make a commitment described in clause (i) only—

(I) if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from the commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made; and

(II) to the extent of that up-front obligation recorded in full at that time.

(5) SUNSET.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out activities under this subsection shall terminate on the date on which the Secretary notifies Congress that the HALEU needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers can be fully met by commercial HALEU suppliers in the United States, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies.

(h) DOMESTIC SOURCING CONSIDERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary may only carry out an activity in connection with 1 or more of the Programs if—

(A) the activity promotes manufacturing in the United States associated with uranium supply chains; or

(B) the activity relies on resources, materials, or equipment developed or produced—

(i) in the United States; or

(ii) in a country that is an ally or partner of the United States by—

(I) the government of that country;

(II) an associated entity; or

(III) a U.S. nuclear energy company.

(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of paragraph (1) with respect to an activity if the Secretary determines a waiver to be necessary to achieve 1 or more of the objectives described in subsection (b).

(i) REASONABLE COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out activities under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that any LEU and HALEU made available by the Secretary under 1 or more of the Programs is subject to reasonable compensation, taking into account the fair market value of the LEU or HALEU and the purposes of this section.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, United States Code, revenues received by the Secretary from the sale or transfer of fuel feed material acquired by the Secretary pursuant to a contract entered into under clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (e)(1)(A) shall—

(i) be deposited in the account described in subparagraph (B);

(ii) be available to the Secretary for carrying out the purposes of this section, to reduce the need for further appropriations for those purposes; and

(iii) remain available until expended.

(B) REVOLVING FUND.—There is established in the Treasury an account into which the revenues described in subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) deposited in accordance with clause (i) of that subparagraph; and

(ii) made available in accordance with clauses (ii) and (iii) of that subparagraph.

(j) NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION.—The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall prioritize and expedite consideration of any action related to the Programs to the extent permitted under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and related statutes.

(k) USEC PRIVATIZATION ACT.—The requirements of section 3112 of the USEC Privatization Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h-10) shall not apply to activities related to the Programs.

(l) NATIONAL SECURITY NEEDS.—The Secretary shall only make available to a member of the consortium under this section for commercial use or use in a demonstration project material that the President has determined is not necessary for national security needs, subject to the condition that the material made available shall not include any material that the Secretary determines to be necessary for the National Nuclear Security Administration or any critical mission of the Department.

(m) INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with the obligations of the United States under international agreements.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON CIVIL NUCLEAR CREDIT PROGRAM.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that identifies the anticipated funding requirements for the civil nuclear credit program described in section 40323 of the Infrastructure Investment

and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18753), taking into account—

(1) the zero-emission nuclear power production credit authorized by section 45U of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(2) any increased fuel costs associated with the use of domestic fuel that may arise from the implementation of that program.

SA 6628. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. RISCH)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3428, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes."

Mr. MERKLEY. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA TAYLOR AND REGGIE BABIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Well, Madam President, as you know, there are a lot of good things that occur at the end of the year. We have our holidays—our Christmas and Hanukkah holidays—with our families. We passed a lot of good legislation, and that is a job well done. A feeling of pride swells in all of our hearts that we were able to help so many American people in so many different ways and make our country and our world a better place.

But it is also a moment of sadness in a certain sense for those of us who some of our great staff members are leaving. I have a few, and I would like to talk about two today, two of the top people.

I am blessed. I have a great staff. I know how good you all think they are, our Senators, because you are always talking to my staff, and that shows the respect that they have for them and the respect I have for them as well.

One of the nice things about my staff is they are with me for many, many years. In fact, Mike Lynch, my chief in New York and Washington, who I think is the best chief for a leader that anyone has ever had, and Martin Brennan, my chief in Washington, have been with me virtually since I began in the Senate 24 years ago. So people stay awhile.

And these two have. I am going to miss them dearly.

First, let me begin with my Director of Economic Policy, Anna Taylor.

How did I meet Anna Taylor? Blanche Lambert Lincoln, a Senator from Arkansas, had just lost her race. She came into my office, and we hugged and cried a little bit because she was such a great person and we knew we would miss her in the Senate.

But she said: I want to give you a gift. And she said: Anna Taylor. Anna Taylor—that is how they would say her name. They are from northeast Arkansas. They call it the rice country. That means rice.

And she has been the best tax staffer—trade, economic policy—on the Hill. Every Senator on our side of the aisle and many on other sides of the aisle, when they have problems on tax policy, the watchword is: Go to Anna.

I don't know. Are they here? Are they—no. Well, I hope they are listening. Anyway: Go to Anna. She knows it better than anyone.

And she is brilliant. She is hard-working. She takes the most complex problems and figures out how to solve them in a substantive way but in a way that could be acceptable politically to a broad and diverse Senate. And she just knows it all. When there are these complicated economic issues that need explaining, she explains them in a way that is totally accurate and deep but also makes us able to understand them.

And, of course, she knows she is number 38 on my speed dial on my well-known famous—or infamous, whatever way you look at it—flip phone. She takes my calls from about 6 in the morning until about midnight because I so depend on her.

She is also such a decent person. She is amazing. She is kind. She is nice. She is caring. And she is so dedicated. Let me tell you, during the IRA, one of the most important pieces of legislation passed in decades—and she, more than anyone else, had written the tax parts of it, trying to take the diverse views of everybody—she was having her baby, her first baby. She got married while she was working on our staff. And she had little Posey. What a nice name. She kept working. I said: Anna, don't come here. Don't get on the phone. You just became a new momma.

But, no, there she was being a great momma as well as somebody helping get us past this historic legislation.

So now Anna is moving on. It will be a little less frenetic life and a life where she can enjoy Posey and her husband. And all of us—not just CHUCK SCHUMER, not just all of my wonderful staff, but the whole Senate—she leaves a huge hole, a huge cavity of knowledge, of dedication, of reliance.

We will miss you, Anna, but you deserve the best. And you will always, always, always be a member of the Schumer family.

And she is not the only one who is leaving. Another great one is leaving too—my chief counsel—and that is Reggie Babin. He, too, is from the South. This kid from southern Brooklyn is hiring a lot of southern Americans—not southern Americans—people from the South of the United States.

Reggie is from Louisiana. He still loves LSU and many other Louisiana-type things. And he is my departing chief counsel.

When I became leader—then minority leader—I needed a really good counsel. The minute I interviewed Reggie, who had worked on the House side for Cedric Richmond and in the Black Caucus, I said: Whoa, this guy has got it all. We have got to hire him.

And sure enough, my faith in that initial meeting was totally vindicated. Reggie is deep. He is a thinker. And when you have a problem, he has always turned it over six different ways with many different sides of the prism. He sees them all. And he is careful, and he is thoughtful.

I am sort of a "yes" person. I like to get everything done. He is a little bit more of a "no" person and has stopped me from doing things that I am glad I never did. And he is just amazing.

And he has had such dedication in so many pieces of legislation that we have passed. And probably at the top of the list is judges. As Senator DURBIN, the chairman of Judiciary knows, we have appointed so many good people on the bench. And Dick and his committee did a great job, but so did Reggie Babin—who worked with the White House, who worked with the Judiciary Committee, who worked with everybody. And we have a record number of judges, and I would say it is the finest cohort of judges that has ever come before the Senate in 2 years. And it is in good part because of Reggie.

There are a couple of things that he didn't get done—his goal to help us decriminalize marijuana, one of his passions because he had seen how badly it had hurt communities throughout the country. We came close, but we didn't make it. But, Reggie, a pledge to you. We are going to continue your work and your legacy next year. You have built a great bipartisan coalition, and I believe we can get it done.

So, Reggie, just like Anna, we will miss you. You have left your mark on this institution, both Anna and Reggie. They have both left their mark on our country. There are millions of Americans right now whose lives are better because Reggie Babin and Anna Taylor trod the Halls of Congress and did great work for all of us.

So I want to thank them for their sacrifice. I want to thank them for their good will. I want to thank them for their friendship. We got to know each other on a personal basis.

And I want to say to both: You are always members of the Schumer family. We will always be in touch. We miss you, wish you Godspeed, and know you will continue to have great success with your families and in making the world a better place.

We have a little housekeeping business, the last bit of the season, of 2022, a great year for us. Not the last bit. OK. Not the last today, but we don't have to do anything tomorrow. OK. Good.